

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10  
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O 011902Z FEB 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5412  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM  
SUBJECT: 34TH SESSION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: UK  
STATEMENT REGARDING INITIATIVE ON UGANDA

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT DISTRIBUTED TO WEO'S REGARD-  
ING ITS INITIATIVE ON UGANDA DURING THE HRC SESSION:  
QTE 34TH UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: UGANDA

1. THE UK WILL PRESS AT THE FORTHCOMING SESSION OF THE  
COMMISSION FOR EFFECTIVE ACTION TO INVESTIGATE THE WIDELY  
REPORTED AND DOCUMENTED VIOLATIONS IN UGANDA. WIDESPREAD  
INTERNATIONAL CONCERN AT REPORTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS  
IN UGANDA CONTINUES TO BE EXPRESSED. SUCH VIOLATIONS  
WERE CONDEMNED IN THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING IN LONDON ON  
15 JUNE 1977, AND IN THE PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE EEC  
FOREIGN MINISTERS ON 21 JUNE 1977. THE STATEMENT BY THE  
CHAIRMAN OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE AT THE 32ND GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY IS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF CONTINUING CONCERN.

2. UGANDA IS FIRMLY ON THE AGENDA OF THE 34TH HUMAN RIGHTS  
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COMMISSION HAVING BEEN THRICE INDICTED AS FOLLOWS:

A. BY DECISION OF THE COMMISSION AT ITS 1977 MEETING;

B. BY DECISION OF THE UN SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION  
OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES AT ITS  
MEETING IN AUGUST 1977, AGAIN TO REFER UGANDA TO THE

COMMISSION UNDER THE CONFIDENTIAL 1503 PROCEDURE;

C. BY THE STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN DECEMBER 1977 THAT THE NORDIC SPONSORS OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION ON VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA WOULD NOT PRESS IT TO A VOTE "ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE CONCERN EXPRESSED IN THE DRAFT RESOLUTION WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESUMES ITS CONSIDERATION OF THIS QUESTION."

3. THE FEBRUARY 1977 SESSION OF THE COMMISSION HAD UGANDA ON ITS AGENDA, BOTH UNDER THE CONFIDENTIAL 1503 PROCEDURE AND BY A RESOLUTION OF THE SUB-COMMISSION. THE UK PRESSED IN CLOSED SESSION UNDER THE 1503 PROCEDURE FOR AN EFFECTIVE INVESTIGATION AND, WHEN THAT FAILED, IN OPEN SESSION ON THE BASIS OF THE SUB-COMMISSION'S RESOLUTION WHICH ALSO FAILED. A VOTING MAJORITY OF THIRD WORLD AND EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES OPPOSED ACTION FOR REASONS OF SOLIDARITY WITH UGANDA AND FOR OTHER REASONS. THE RESOLUTION FINALLY ADOPTED MERELY KEPT UGANDA ON THE AGENDA FOR 1978.

4. THE FAILURE OF THE COMMISSION AT ITS 1977 MEETING TO RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF THE SITUATION WAS A SERIOUS DISAPPOINTMENT TO THE UK AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS. IT IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOPED THAT OTHER MEMBER STATES OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION WILL SUPPORT THE UK IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO HAVE A FULL AND OPEN DISCUSSION OF UGANDA AT THE 1978 SESSION. UNQTE. SORENSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, UG, UK  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014